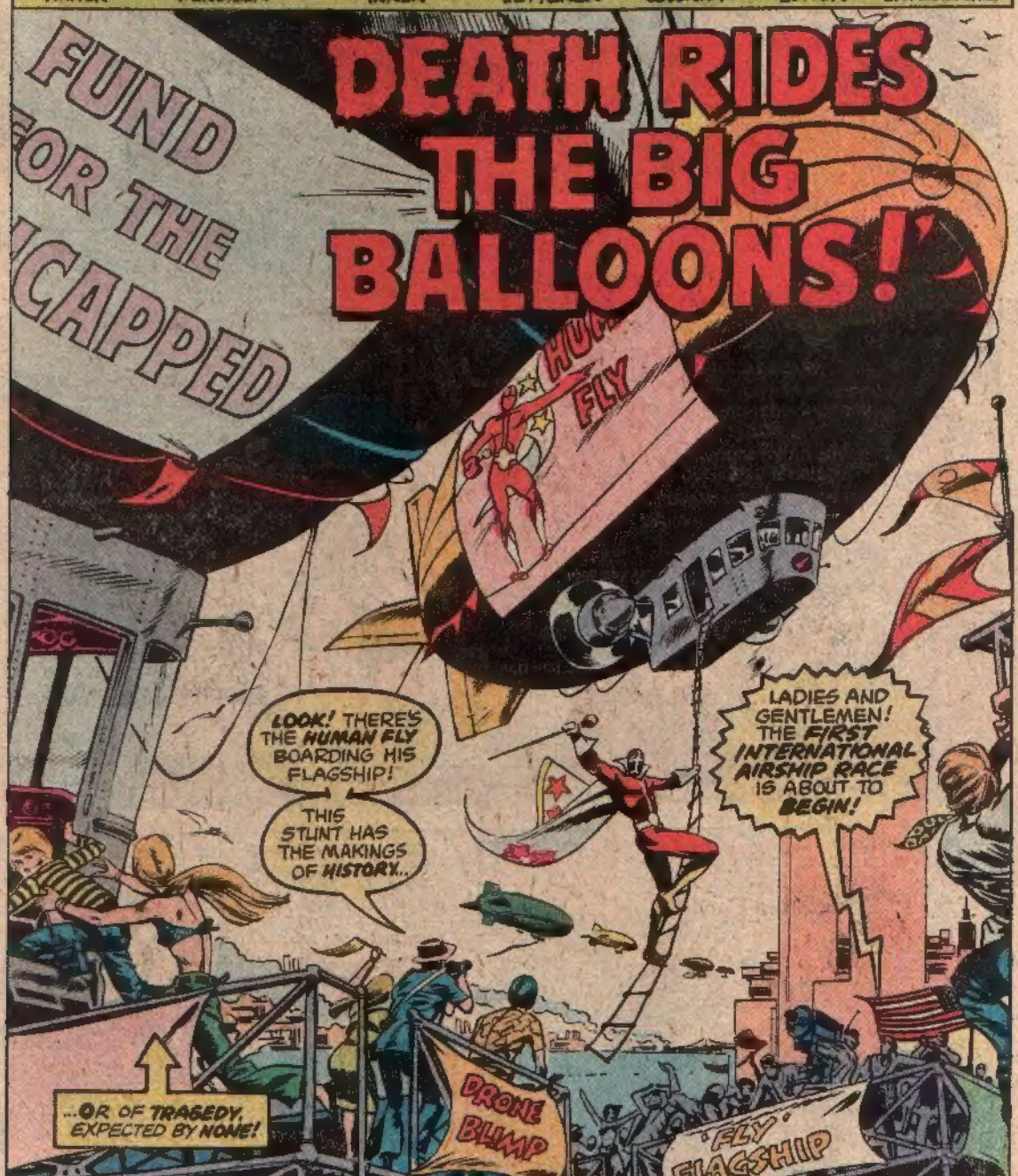
STILL ONLY 35¢
MARVEL® COMICS GROUP
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
14 OCT
02750
THE WILDEST SUPER-HERO EVER--BECAUSE HE'S REAL!
THE HUMAN FLY™
US NAVY
FEAR OVER FIFTH AVENUE!

One night in 1971, on a lonely North Carolina highway, a head-on *car crash* cost a young driver his family—and, very nearly, his *life!* Hardly a bone in his body remained *unbroken.* His doctors were *sure* that he would never *move* again. . . But he *triumphed* over his disability and went on to become the *wildest hero* of all—because he's *REAL!*

Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE HUMAN FLY!™

BILL MANTLO	FRANK ROBBINS	STEVE LEIALOHA	RICK PARKER	DON WARFIELD	BOB HALL	JIM SHOOTER
WRITER	PENCILER	INKER	LETTERER	COLORIST	EDITOR	EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

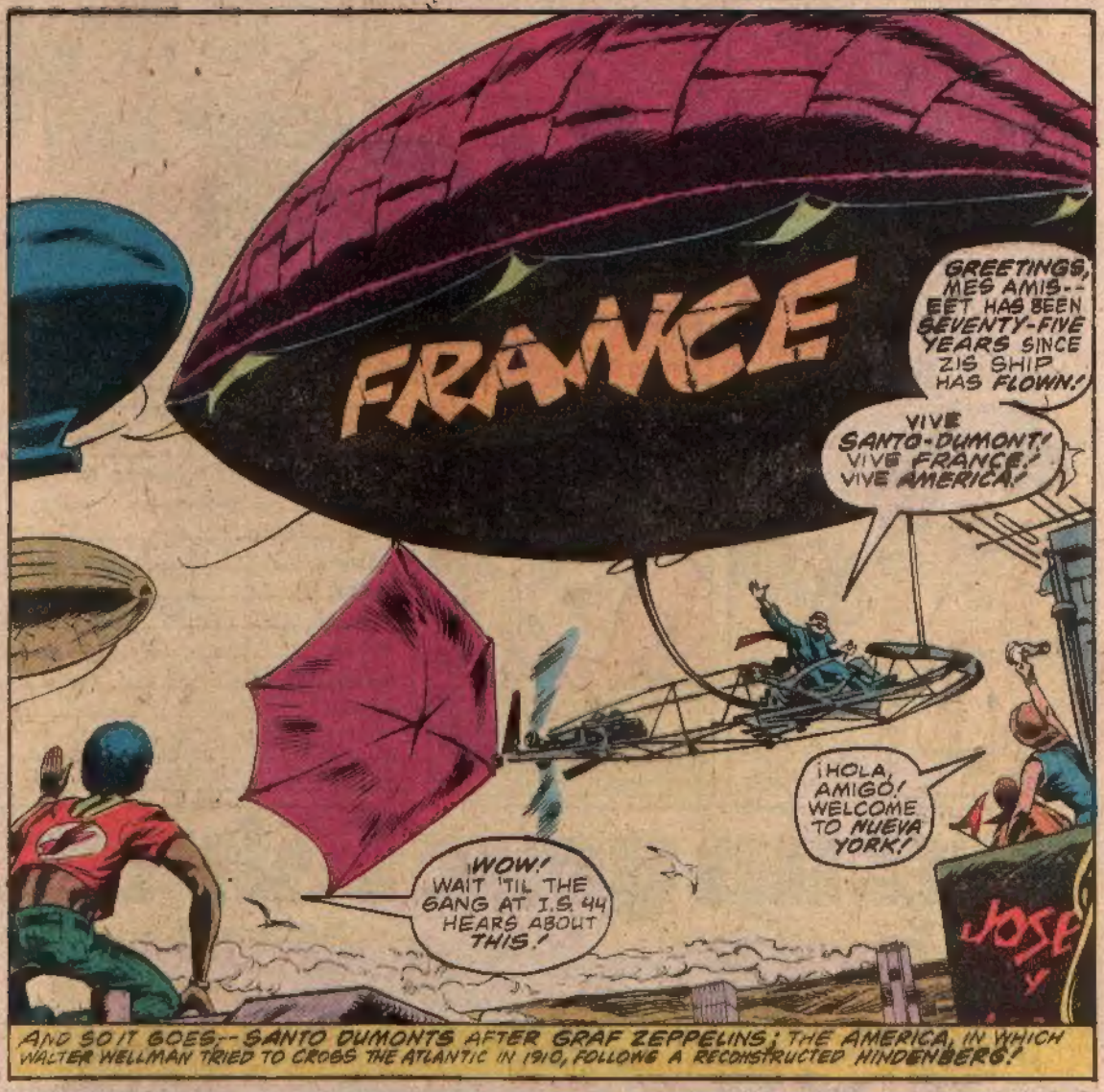

FUND
FOR THE
CAPPED
DEATH RIDES THE BIG BALLOONS!
HUMAN FLY
LOOK! THERE'S THE HUMAN FLY BOARDING HIS FLAGSHIP!
THIS STUNT HAS THE MAKINGS OF HISTORY..
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL AIRSHIP RACE IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!
...OR OF TRAGEDY, EXPECTED BY NONE!
DRONE BLIMP
"FLY" FLAGSHIP

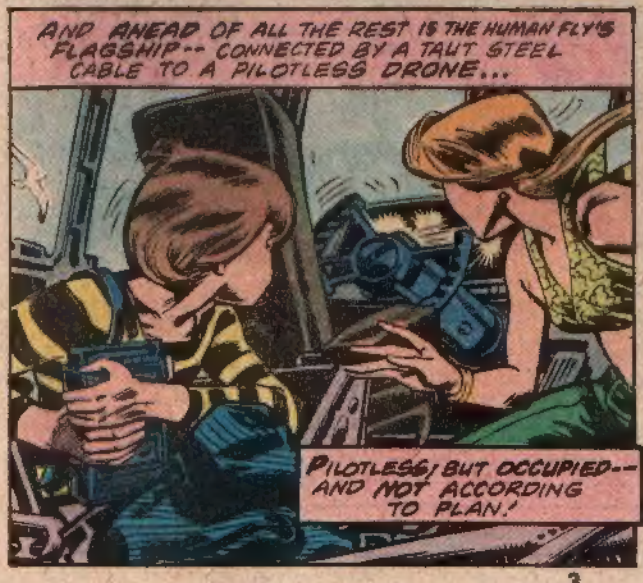
THE HUMAN FLY™ is published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP, James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Office of Publication: 575 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y., 10022. Published monthly. Copyright ©1978 HUMAN FLY SPECTACULARS, LTD. All rights reserved. The advertising and editorial material appearing on pages 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25, 28, 29 and 32 only, Copyright ©1978 MARVEL COMICS GROUP. A Division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved. Vol. 1, No. 14, October, 1978 issue. Price 35¢ per copy in the U.S. and Canada. Subscription rate: $4.50 for 12 issues. Canada, $5.50. Foreign, $6.50. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. Printed in the U.S.A. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers, and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. Application for second class postage pending at New York and additional mailing offices.

THIS IS HARMONY WHYTE REPORTING FOR WEST-TV! TODAY, OVER NEW YORK'S HUDSON RIVER, AN EVENT AS GRAND AS THE BICENTENNIAL ARRIVAL OF THE TALL SHIPS IS TAKING PLACE!
DIRIGIBLES FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD-- THOSE MAGNIFICENT AIRSHIPS OF THE PAST--ARE HERE--
--TO TEST THEIR METTLE IN A NEW YORK-TO-LOS ANGELES CROSS-COUNTRY AIR RACE! BUT THAT'S NOT ALL THIS CROWD HAS COME TO SEE!
I NOW TURN YOU OVER TO TED LOCKE-- STUNT ENGINEER FOR THE ONE AND ONLY HUMAN FLY!
R34
BRITANNIA
ITALY

THANKS, HARMONY! AS THE LADY SAID, THERE'S MORE HERE TODAY THAN JUST A RACE!
TO KICK OFF THE SHOW, THE HUMAN FLY WILL PERFORM A DEATH-WALK THROUGH SPACE!

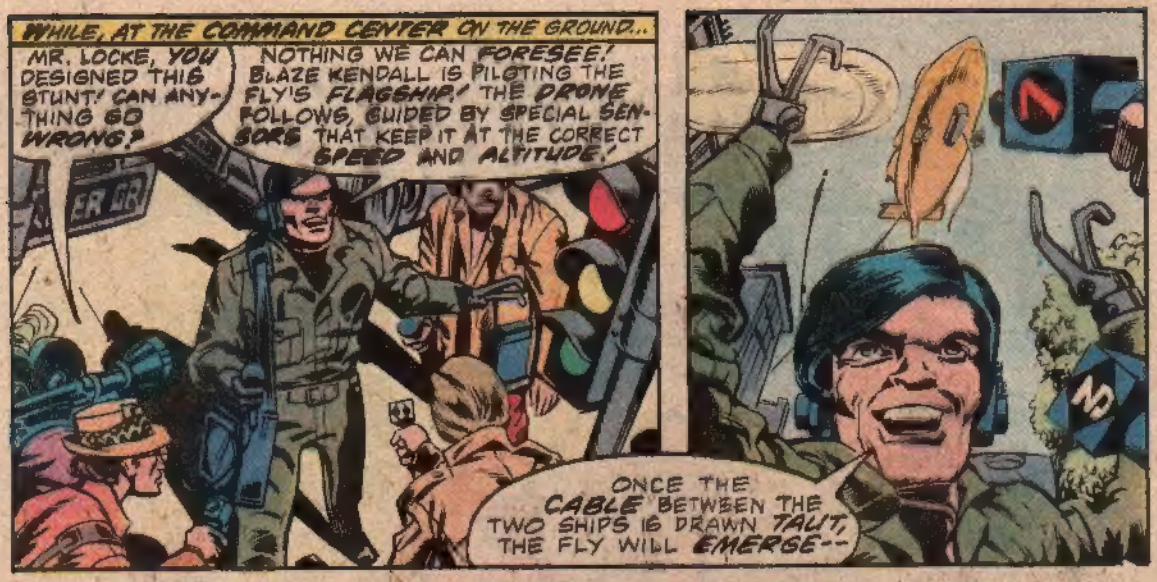
HIGH ABOVE THE HUDSON, THE FLY WILL WALK A SLENDER TIGHTROPE STRUNG BETWEEN HIS FLAGSHIP AND A PILOTLESS DRONE BLIMP!
HOW'RE WE DOING, BLAZE?
FINE, FLY-- BUT TED IS POURING IT ON THICKER THAN MOLASSES! I CAN HEAR HIM ON MY HEADSET!


FRANCE
GREETINGS, MES AMIS--EET HAS BEEN SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS SINCE ZIS SHIP HAS FLOWN!
VIVE SANTO-DUMONT! VIVE FRANCE! VIVE AMERICA!
¡HOLA, AMIGO! WELCOME TO NUEVA YORK!
¡WOW! WAIT 'TIL THE GANG AT I.S. 44 HEARS ABOUT THIS!
JOSE
AND SO IT GOES:--SANTO DUMONTS AFTER GRAF ZEPPELINS; THE AMERICA, IN WHICH WALTER WELLMAN TRIED TO CROSS THE ATLANTIC IN 1910, FOLLOWS A RECONSTRUCTED HINDENBERG!

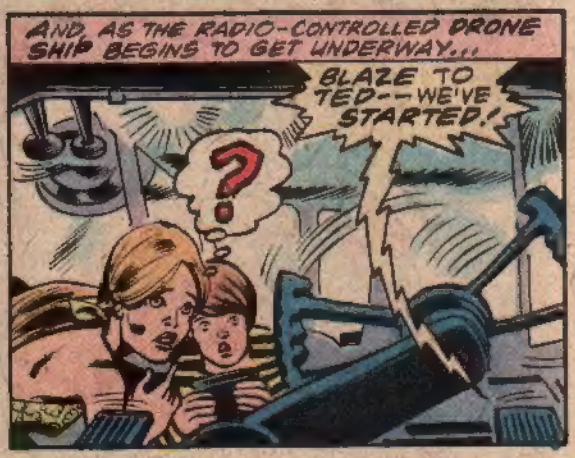

AND AHEAD OF ALL THE REST IS THE HUMAN FLY'S FLAGSHIP--CONNECTED BY A TAUT STEEL CABLE TO A PILOTLESS DRONE...
PILOTLESS, BUT OCCUPIED--AND NOT ACCORDING TO PLAN!

THESE TWO CHILDREN ARE PAUL AND MARISSA! THEY ARE STOWAWAYS--ESCAPING THE HORRORS OF A JUVENILE HOME TO FIND A DISTANT AUNT IN CALIFORNIA!
AND THE GIRL'S FRANTIC HAND SIGNALS TO HER BROTHER AS THE DRONE STARTS TO MOVE TELL THEIR STORY... THE CHILDREN ARE MUTE! THEY CANNOT SPEAK!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE


WHILE, AT THE COMMAND CENTER ON THE GROUND...
MR. LOCKE, YOU DESIGNED THIS STUNT! CAN ANYTHING GO WRONG?
NOTHING WE CAN FORESEE! BLAZE KENDALL IS PILOTING THE FLY'S FLAGSHIP! THE DRONE FOLLOWS, GUIDED BY SPECIAL SENSORS THAT KEEP IT AT THE CORRECT SPEED AND ALTITUDE!
ONCE THE CABLE BETWEEN THE TWO SHIPS IS DRAWN TAUT, THE FLY WILL EMERGE--

--AND, DEFYING DEATH TO RAISE MONEY FOR A SPECIAL FUND FOR THE HANDICAPPED--
U.S. NAVY
Germany
--THE FLY WILL WALK A HIGHWIRE BETWEEN TWO MOVING BLIMPS HUNDREDS OF FEET ABOVE THE HUDSON RIVER!


AND AS THE RADIO-CONTROLLED DRONE SHIP BEGINS TO GET UNDERWAY...
BLAZE TO TED--WE'VE STARTED!
?

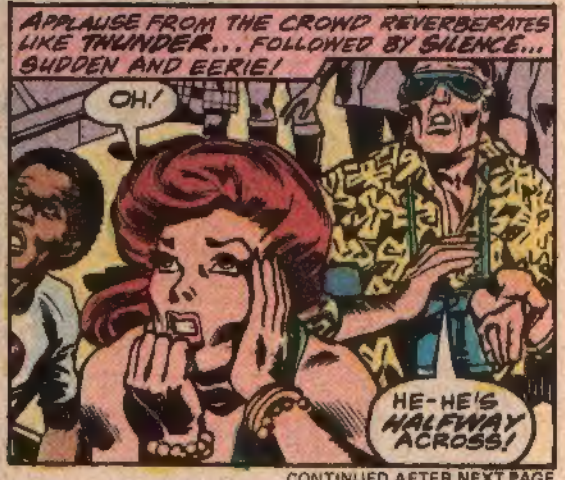
OKAY! I'LL MONITOR YOU FROM DOWN HERE, BLAZE!

GOOD LUCK!

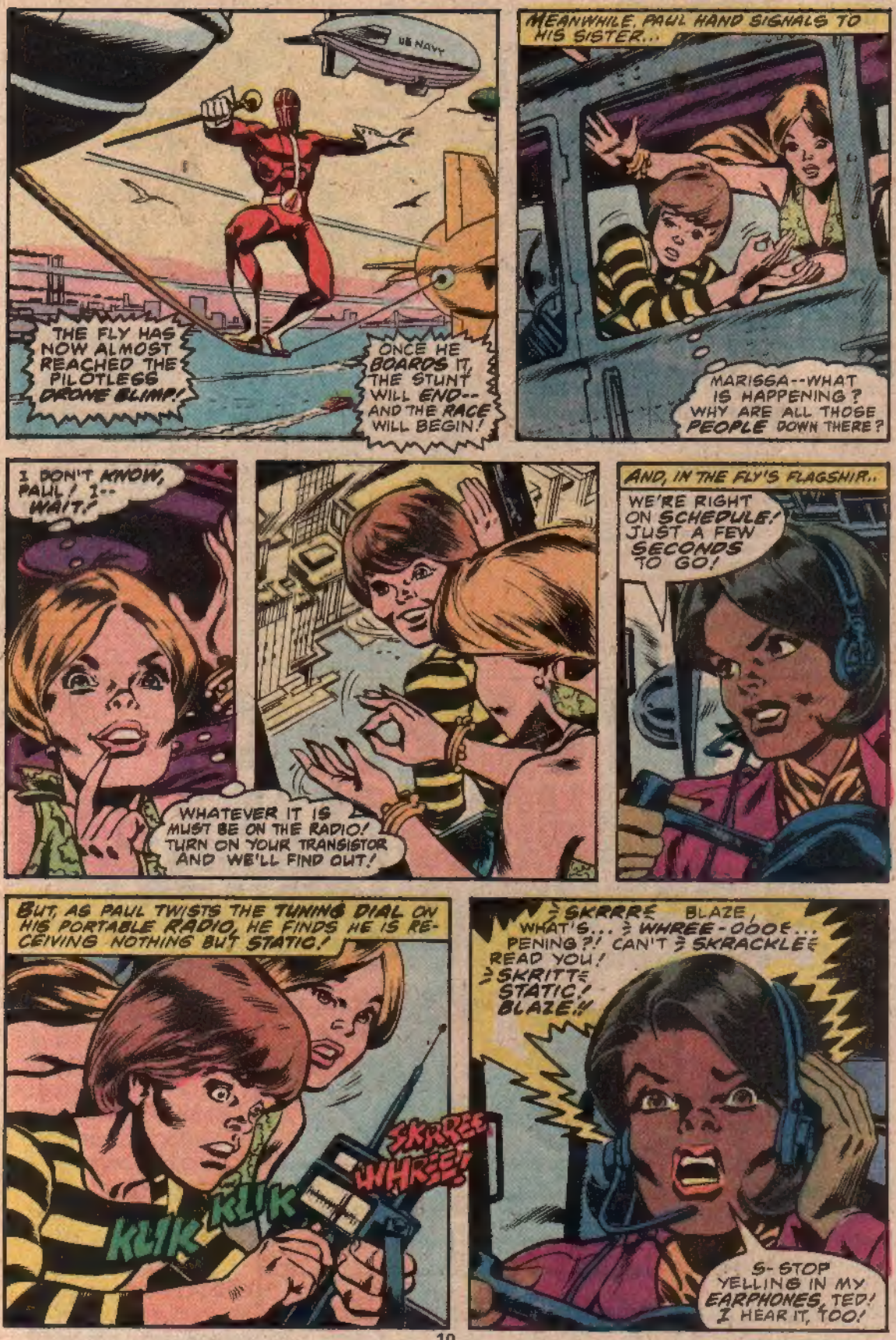
ABOARD THE DRONE SHIP, ONLY BLAZE'S CLOSED-CIRCUIT RADIO TRANSMISSIONS CAN BE HEARD--
-- LEAVING THE TWO CHILDREN QUITE IN THE DARK ABOUT WHAT IS GOING ON ABOVE THEM!

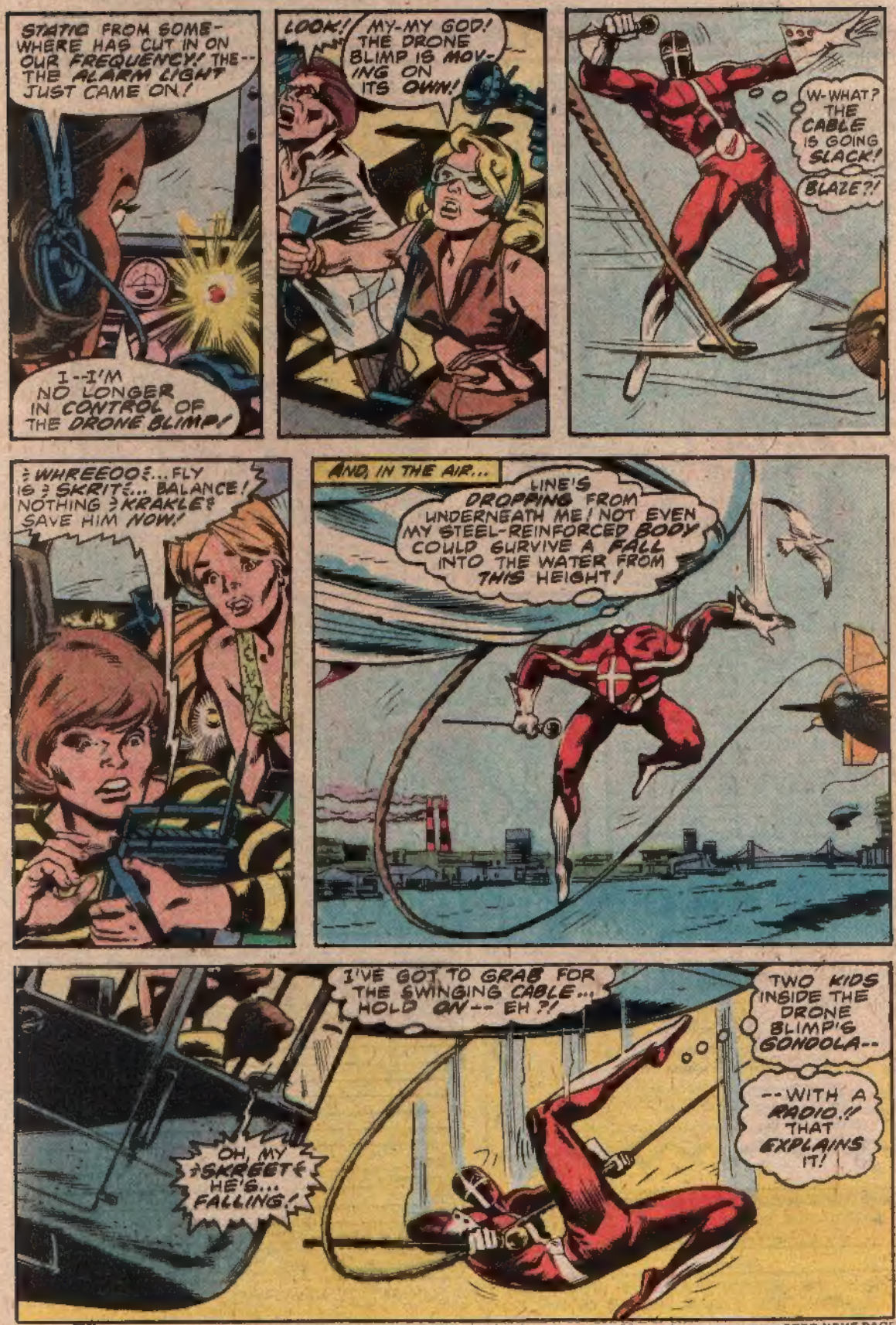
WHILE, ON THE GROUND...
FROM HERE THE FLY IS JUST A RED SPECK ON A SLIM LINE AGAINST A BLUE EXPANSE OF SKY!
THE MAN YOU SEE UP THERE WAS ONCE A HELPLESS CRIPPLE! HE FORCED HIS BODY TO MOVE AGAIN--

--THAT HE MIGHT BRING PEOPLE IN SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES A MESSAGE OF HOPE... AND OF BELIEF IN HUMAN WILLPOWER!
HE'S WONDERFUL!
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN!

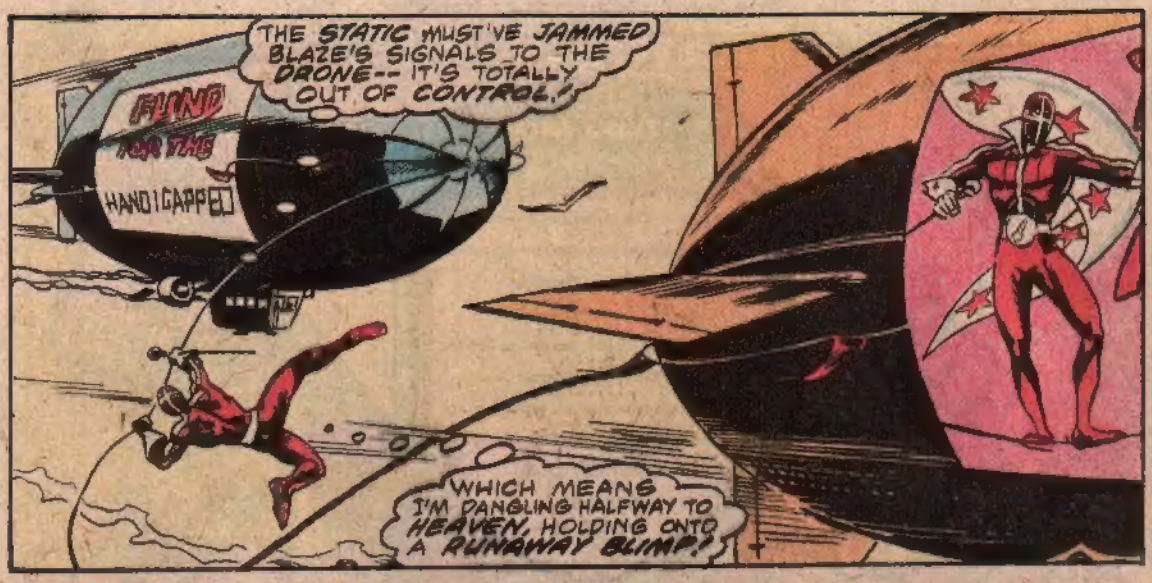


CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE


US NAVY
THE FLY HAS NOW ALMOST REACHED THE PILOTLESS DRONE BLIMP!
ONCE HE BOARDS IT, THE STUNT WILL END--AND THE RACE WILL BEGIN!
MEANWHILE, PAUL HAND SIGNALS TO HIS SISTER...
MARISSA--WHAT IS HAPPENING? WHY ARE ALL THOSE PEOPLE DOWN THERE?
I DON'T KNOW, PAUL! I--WAIT!
WHATEVER IT IS MUST BE ON THE RADIO! TURN ON YOUR TRANSISTOR AND WE'LL FIND OUT!
AND, IN THE FLY'S FLAGSHIP..
WE'RE RIGHT ON SCHEDULE! JUST A FEW SECONDS TO GO!
BUT, AS PAUL TWISTS THE TUNING DIAL ON HIS PORTABLE RADIO, HE FINDS HE IS RECEIVING NOTHING BUT STATIC!
KLIK KLIK
SKRREE WHREE!
SKRRRE BLAZE, WHAT'S... WHREE-OOOE... PENING?! CAN'T SKRACKLEE READ YOU! SKRITTE STATIC! BLAZE!!
S-STOP YELLING IN MY EARPHONES, TED! I HEAR IT, TOO!


STATIC FROM SOMEWHERE HAS CUT IN ON OUR FREQUENCY! THE-- THE ALARM LIGHT JUST CAME ON!
I--I'M NO LONGER IN CONTROL OF THE DRONE BLIMP!
LOOK!
MY-MY GOD! THE DRONE BLIMP IS MOVING ON ITS OWN!
W-WHAT? THE CABLE IS GOING SLACK!
BLAZE?!
}WHREEOO{... FLY IS }SKRIT{... BALANCE! NOTHING }KRAKLE{ SAVE HIM NOW!
AND, IN THE AIR...
LINE'S DROPPING FROM UNDERNEATH ME! NOT EVEN MY STEEL-REINFORCED BODY COULD SURVIVE A FALL INTO THE WATER FROM THIS HEIGHT!
I'VE GOT TO GRAB FOR THE SWINGING CABLE... HOLD ON-- EH?!
TWO KIDS INSIDE THE DRONE BLIMP'S GONDOLA--
--WITH A RADIO.!! THAT EXPLAINS IT!
OH, MY }SKREET{ HE'S... FALLING!

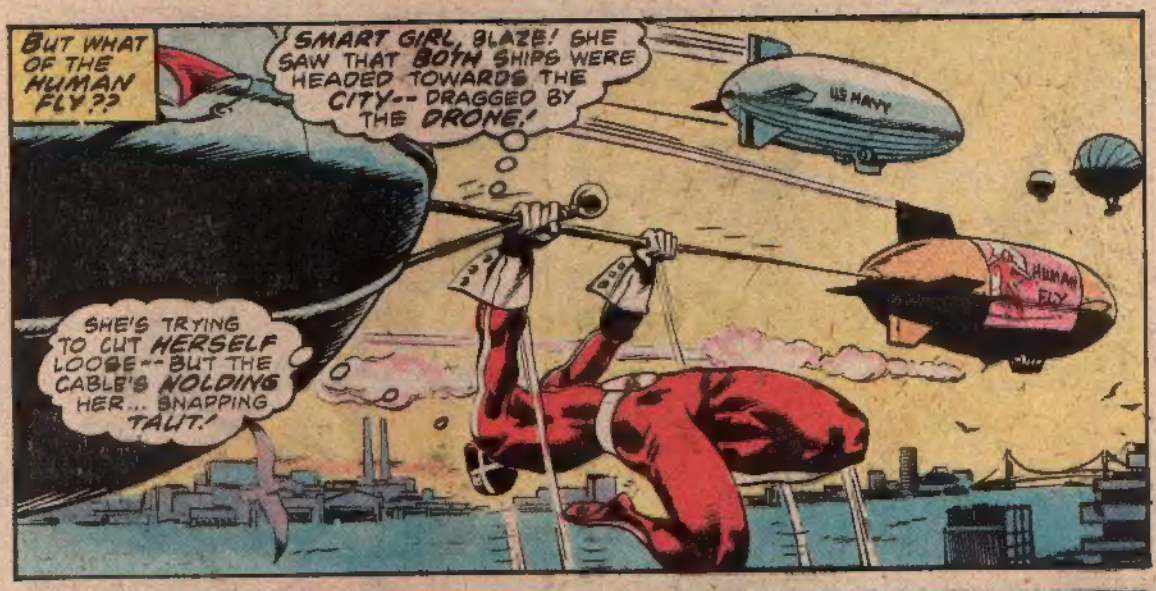
CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

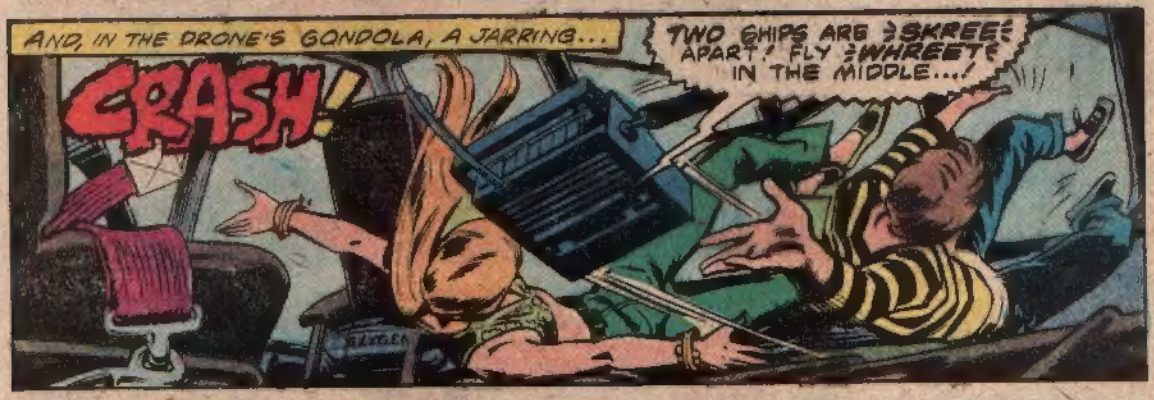

THE STATIC MUST'VE JAMMED BLAZE'S SIGNALS TO THE DRONE-- IT'S TOTALLY OUT OF CONTROL!
FLUNG FOR THIS
HANDICAPPED
WHICH MEANS I'M DANGLING HALFWAY TO HEAVEN, HOLDING ONTO A RUNAWAY BLIMP!

BLAZE MUST KNOW THE SIGNAL'S BEEN JAMMED! SHE'LL ATTEMPT TO OVERRIDE, BUT SHE WON'T KNOW WHAT FREQUENCY TO TRY!
KIDS! TURN OFF YOUR RADIO!
NO USE! THEY CAN'T HEAR ME!
OR ELSE THEY'RE TOO SCARED TO MOVE!

WHILE, IN THE FLAGSHIP, BLAZE STRUGGLES FRANTICALLY WITH THE CONTROLS...
I CAN'T REGAIN CONTROL OVER THE DRONE--AND WE'RE DRIFTING OVER THE CITY, LINKED TOGETHER BY THE CABLE!

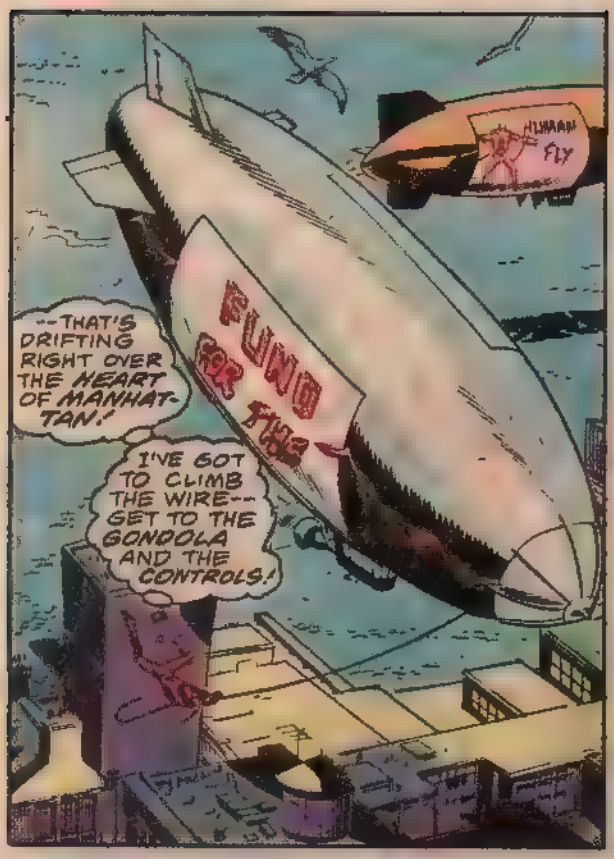
I--I HAVE NO CHOICE! I'VE GOT TO BREAK CONTACT! ONE BLIMP FALLING ON THOSE THOUSANDS OF SPECTATORS WOULD BE BAD ENOUGH!
SKRI!!
TWO WOULD BE A DISASTER!!

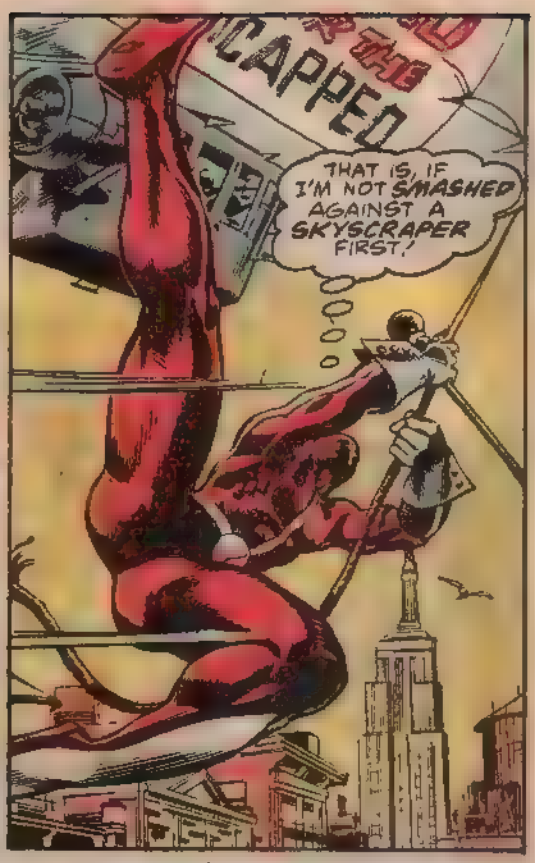

BUT WHAT OF THE HUMAN FLY??
SMART GIRL, BLAZE! SHE SAW THAT BOTH SHIPS WERE HEADED TOWARDS THE CITY-- DRAGGED BY THE DRONE!
US NAVY
HUMAN FLY
SHE'S TRYING TO CUT HERSELF LOOSE--BUT THE CABLE'S HOLDING HER... SNAPPING TAUT!

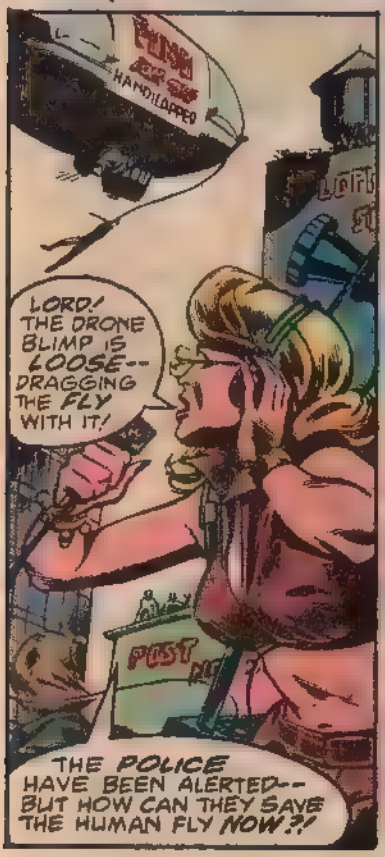

AND, IN THE DRONE'S GONDOLA, A JARRING...
CRASH!
TWO SHIPS ARE APART! FLY IN THE MIDDLE...!
SKREE!
WHREET!

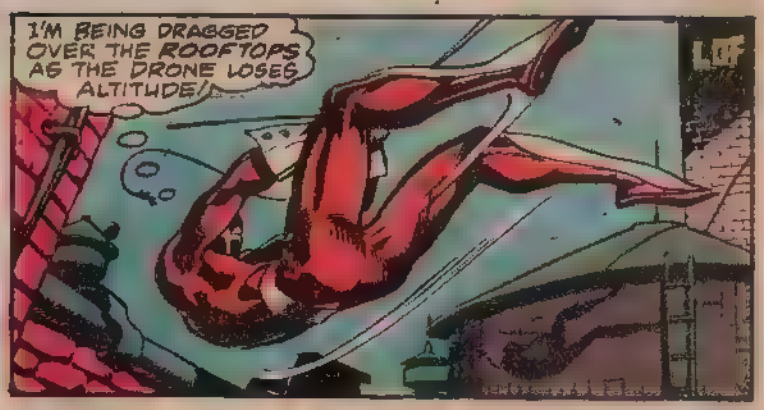
AND...
SNAP!
THERE GOES MY HIGHWIRE! IT COULDN'T STAND THE SUDDEN STRAIN AS THE TWO SHIPS MOVED APART!

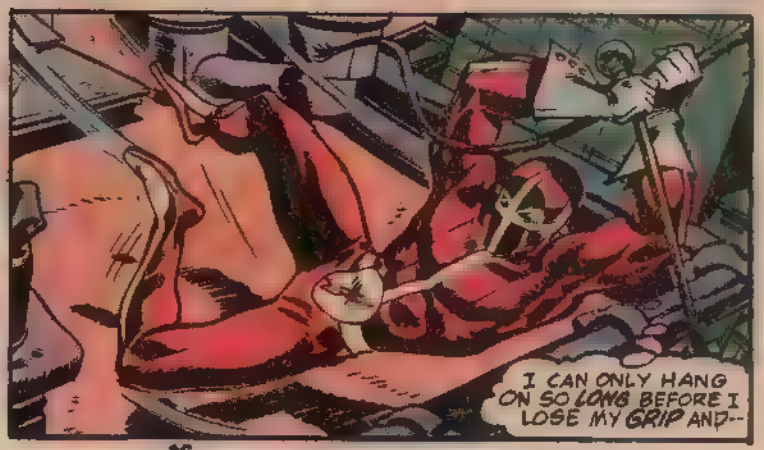
HANDICAPPED
AND THERE GOES BLAZE!
NOW I'M ALONE, WITH TWO KIDS AND A RUNAWAY BLIMP--

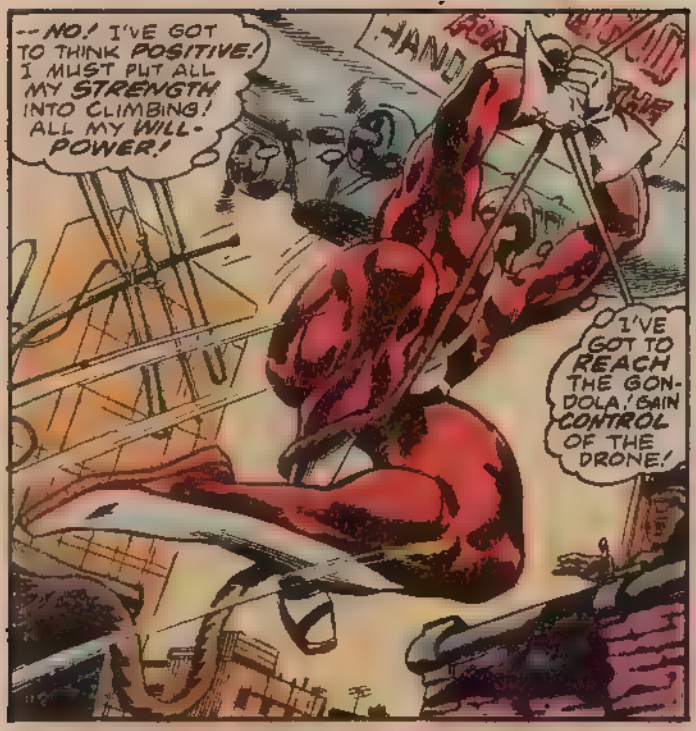

HUMAN FLY
FUND FOR THE
--THAT'S DRIFTING RIGHT OVER THE HEART OF MANHATTAN!
I'VE GOT TO CLIMB THE WIRE--GET TO THE GONDOLA AND THE CONTROLS!

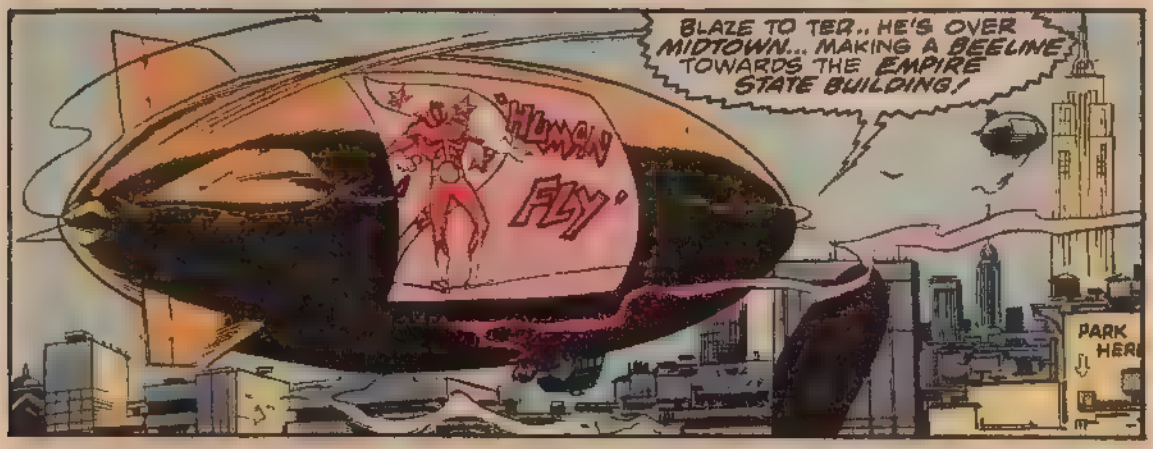

CAPPED
THAT IS, IF I'M NOT SMASHED AGAINST A SKYSCRAPER FIRST!

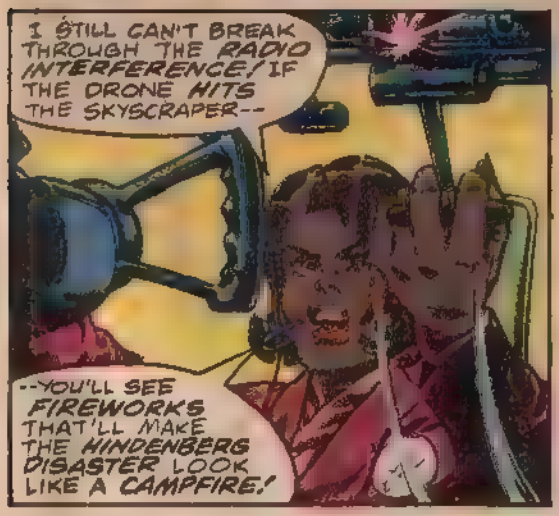

HANDICAPPED
LORD! THE DRONE BLIMP IS LOOSE--DRAGGING THE FLY WITH IT!
THE POLICE HAVE BEEN ALERTED--BUT HOW CAN THEY SAVE THE HUMAN FLY NOW?!

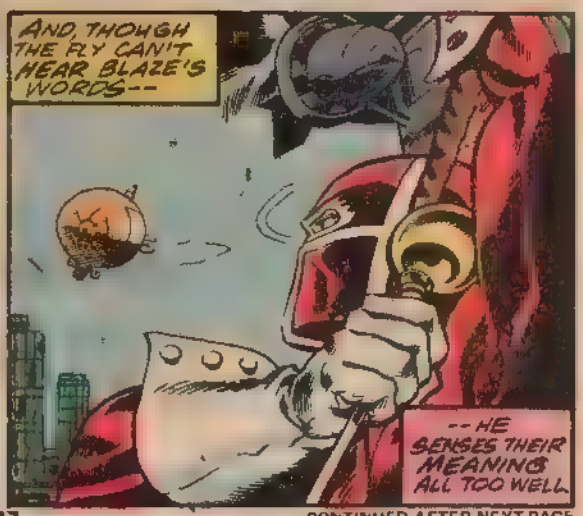

I'M BEING DRAGGED OVER THE ROOFTOPS AS THE DRONE LOSES ALTITUDE!


I CAN ONLY HANG ON SO LONG BEFORE I LOSE MY GRIP AND--


--NO! I'VE GOT TO THINK POSITIVE! I MUST PUT ALL MY STRENGTH INTO CLIMBING! ALL MY WILL-POWER!
I'VE GOT TO REACH THE GONDOLA, GAIN CONTROL OF THE DRONE!

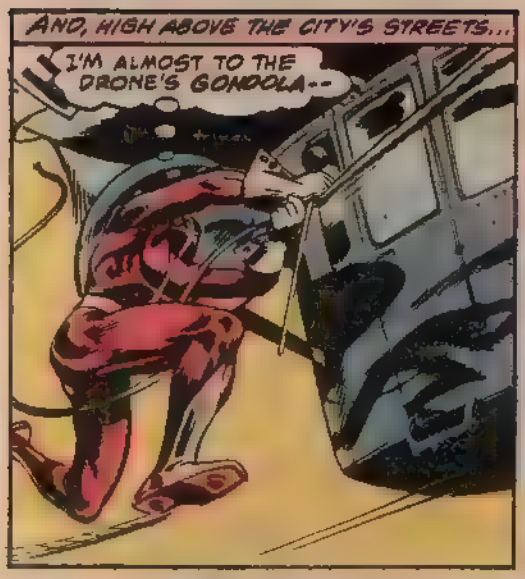


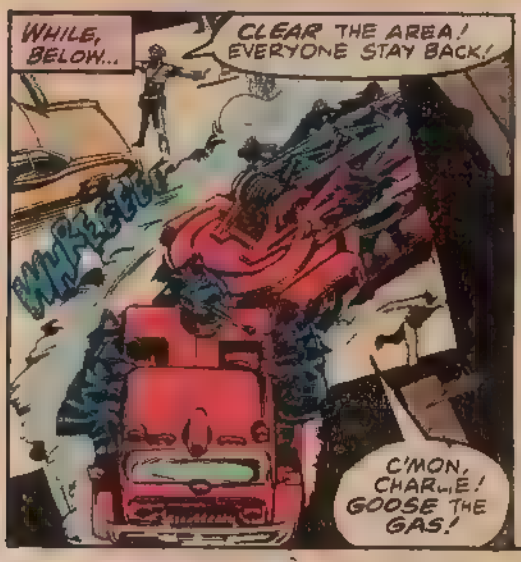

I STILL CAN'T BREAK THROUGH THE RADIO INTERFERENCE! IF THE DRONE HITS THE SKYSCRAPER--
--YOU'LL SEE FIREWORKS THAT'LL MAKE THE HINDENBERG DISASTER LOOK LIKE A CAMPFIRE!

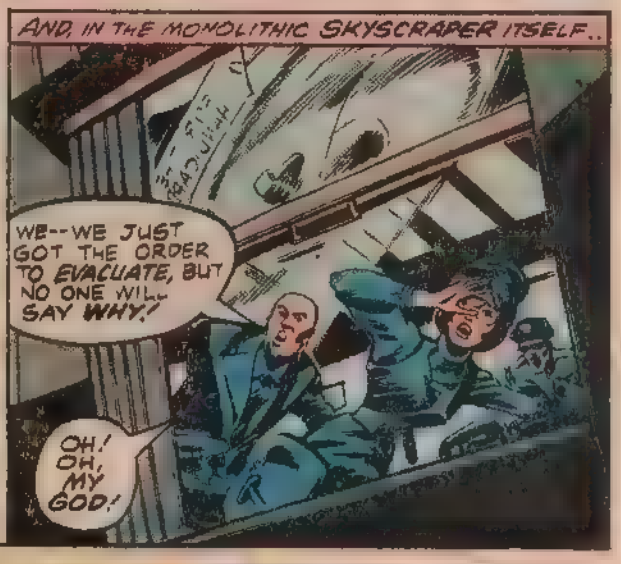


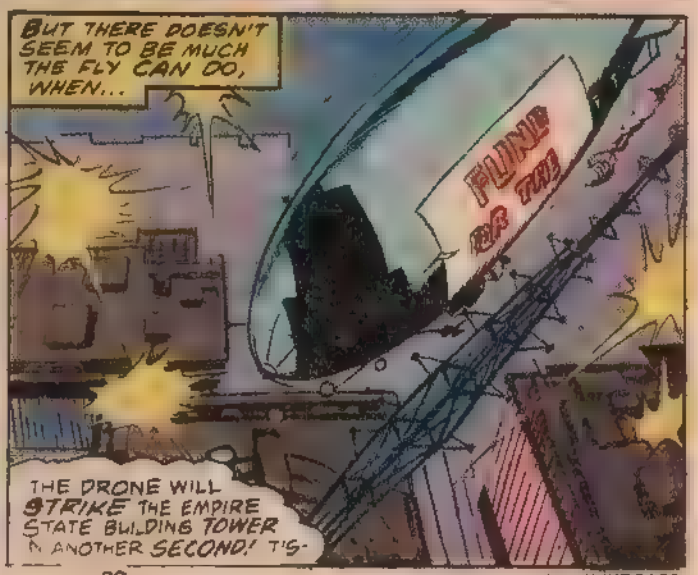
CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

WHILE, ON THE GROUND...
BLAZE, I'M ON MY WAY TO THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING! KEEP ME POSTED!
THANK GOD ARNIE WAS VISITING HIS FOLKS TODAY! HE'D BE HAVING CHICKENS RIGHT NOW!*
*THE FLY'S PUBLIC RELATIONS MAN-- BOB
AND, IN THE WEST-TV MINIVAN...
WE'RE TRACKING THE DRONE, MS. WHYTE!
AND WE'VE GOT CAMERA CREWS ON IT INSIDE THE SKYSCRAPER!
OUR VIEWERS WON'T MISS A THING!
IN-INCLUDING THE DEATH OF THE HUMAN FLY!
A MAN I ONCE TRIED TO DESTROY... BUT NOW I'D GIVE MY LIFE FOR HIM, IF I COULD.
MEANWHILE, IN THE GONDOLA OF THE RUNAWAY DRONE...
:SKREET: REPEAT, THERE SEEMS TO BE SOME FORM OF STATIC :WHREE: INTERFERING WITH THE DRONE'S RADIO CONTROLS! :CRACKLE:
STATIC? RADIO STATIC?!
UNLESS IT IS :SKREE: STOPPED, THE DRONE WILL :FWEE:...!
THE BLIMP STARTED MOVING WHEN I TURNED ON MY RADIO! THE STATIC MUST'VE JAMMED THE CONTROLS!
BUT MY RADIO SLIPPED UNDER THIS PANEL! I--I CAN'T REACH IT TO SHUT IT OFF!!

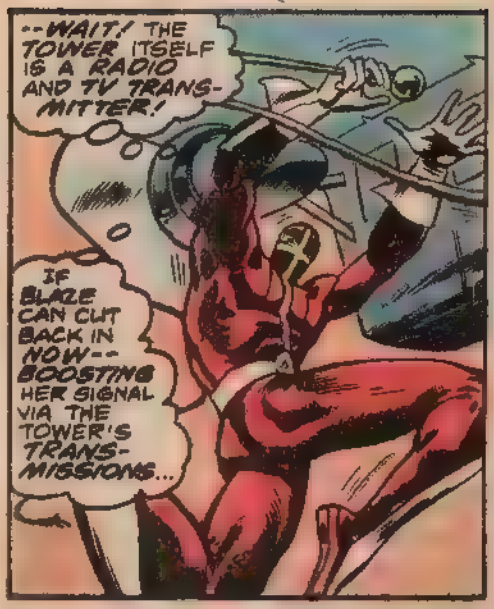


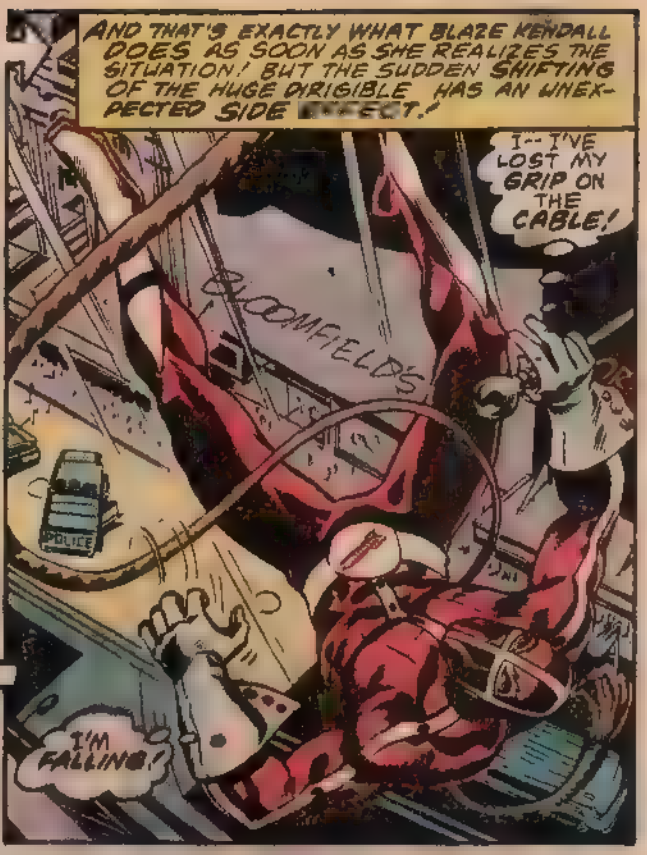


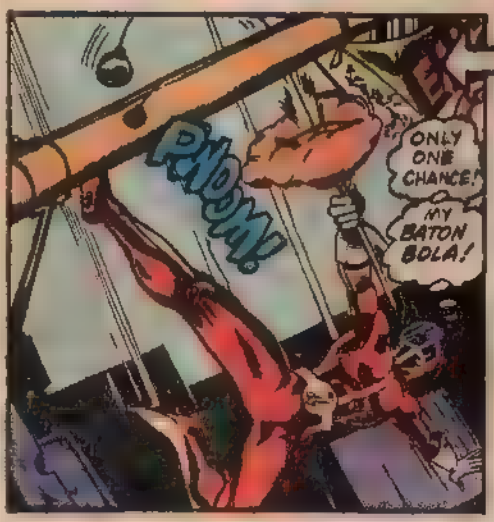


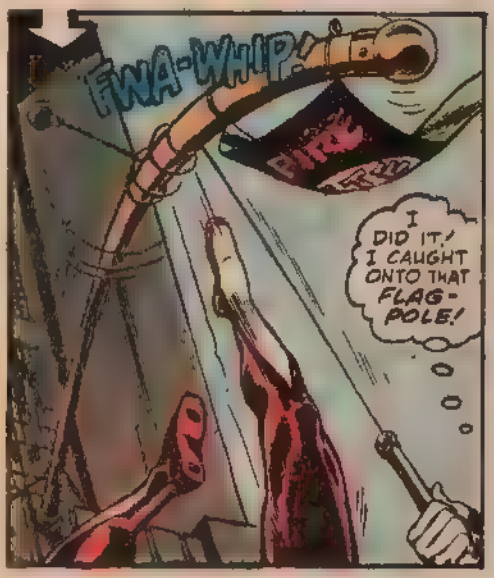

BUT THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE MUCH THE FLY CAN DO, WHEN...
FUND
THE DRONE WILL STRIKE THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING TOWER IN ANOTHER SECOND! T'S-

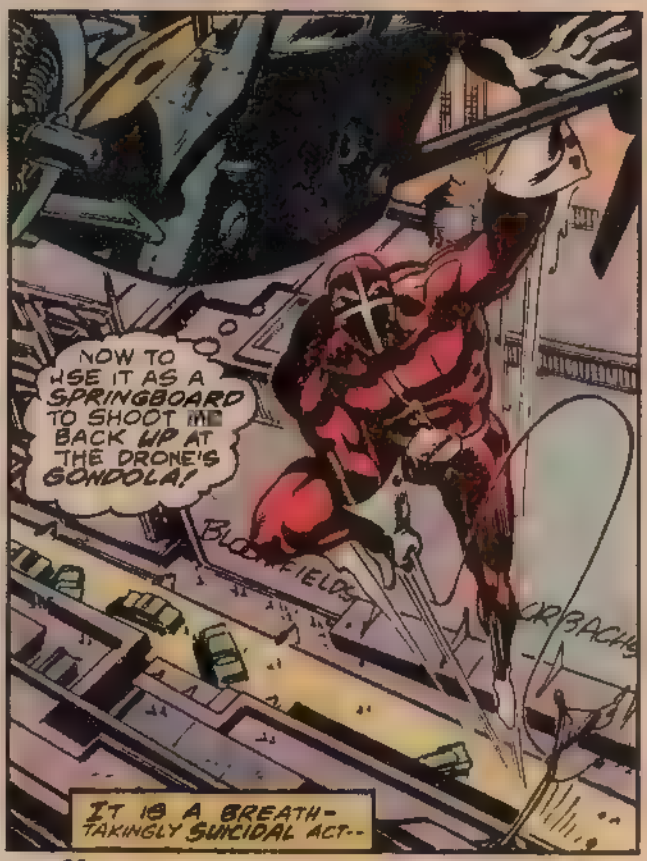
CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

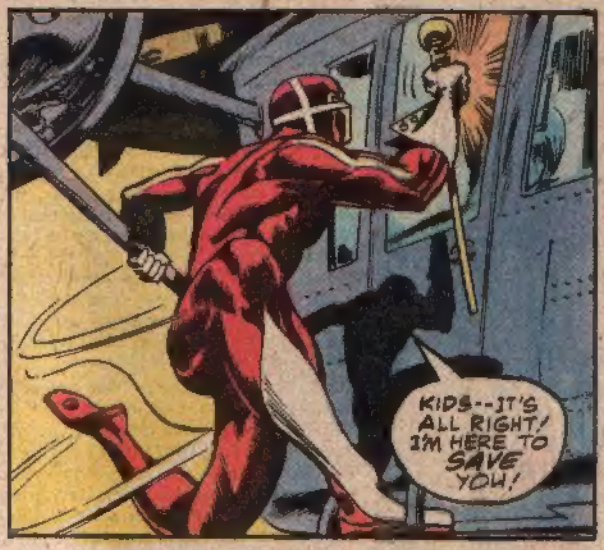

--WAIT! THE TOWER ITSELF IS A RADIO AND TV TRANS-MITTER!
IF BLAZE CAN CUT BACK IN NOW-- BOOSTING HER SIGNAL VIA THE TOWER'S TRANS-MISSIONS...

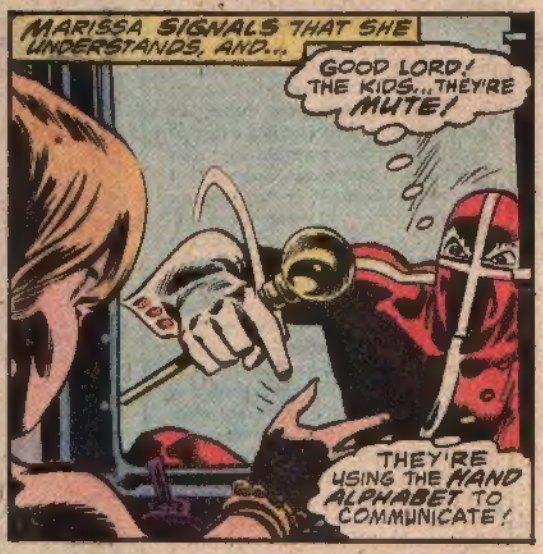

AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT BLAZE KENDALL DOES AS SOON AS SHE REALIZES THE SITUATION! BUT THE SUDDEN SHIFTING OF THE HUGE DIRIGIBLE HAS AN UNEX-PECTED SIDE EFFECT!
I-- I'VE LOST MY GRIP ON THE CABLE!
I'M FALLING!
BLOOMFIELD'S
POLICE


PNOOM!
ONLY ONE CHANCE!
MY BATON BOLA!


FWA-WHIP!
I DID IT! I CAUGHT ONTO THAT FLAG-POLE!

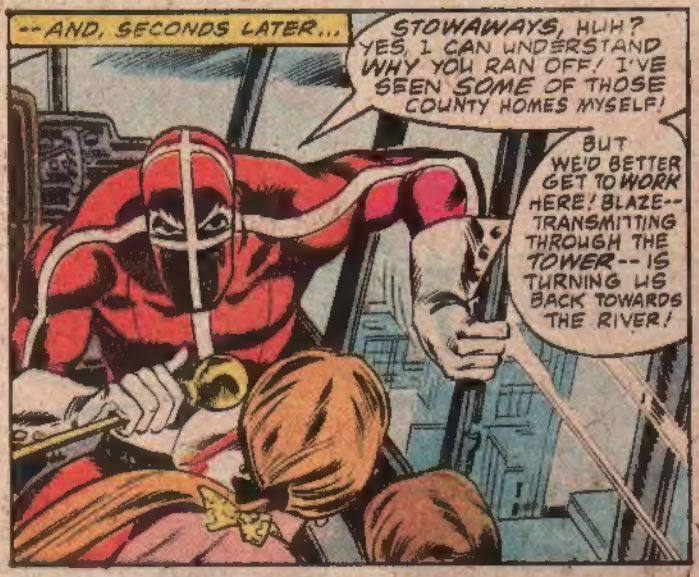

NOW TO USE IT AS A SPRINGBOARD TO SHOOT ME BACK UP AT THE DRONE'S GONDOLA!
IT IS A BREATH-TAKINGLY SUICIDAL ACT--

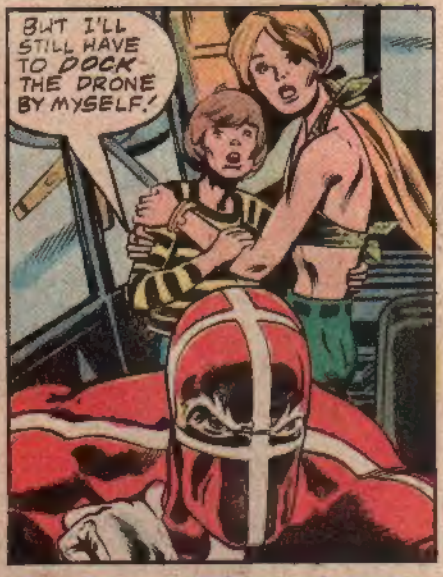


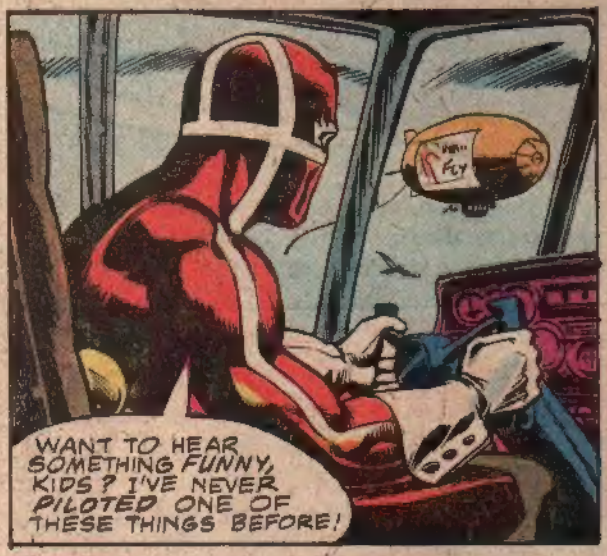


I LEARNED THAT ALPHABET WHILE I WAS IN THE HOSPITAL! I CAN UNDERSTAND THEM!
BUT YOU CAN HEAR ME CAN'T YOU! YOU AREN'T DEAF AS WELL?

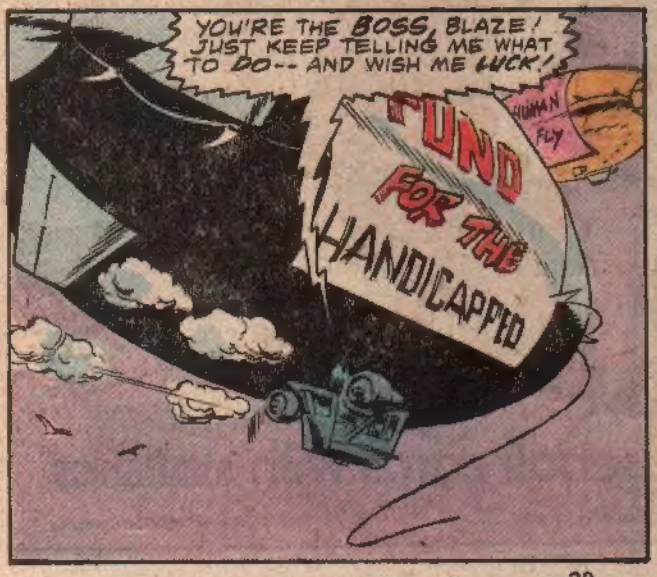
CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

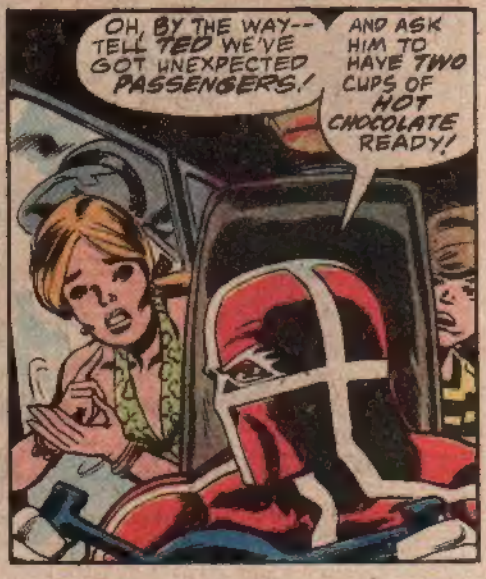

--AND, SECONDS LATER...
STOWAWAYS, HUH? YES, I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY YOU RAN OFF! I'VE SEEN SOME OF THOSE COUNTY HOMES MYSELF!
BUT WE'D BETTER GET TO WORK HERE! BLAZE--TRANSMITTING THROUGH THE TOWER--IS TURNING US BACK TOWARDS THE RIVER!


BUT I'LL STILL HAVE TO DOCK THE DRONE BY MYSELF!


WANT TO HEAR SOMETHING FUNNY, KIDS? I'VE NEVER PILOTED ONE OF THESE THINGS BEFORE!

AND, ONCE BACK OVER THE HUDSON RIVER...
YOU'RE DOING JUST FINE, FLY! NOW BRING HER DOWN SLOW!


YOU'RE THE BOSS, BLAZE! JUST KEEP TELLING ME WHAT TO DO--AND WISH ME LUCK!
FUND FOR THE HANDICAPPED
HUMAN FLY


OH, BY THE WAY--TELL TED WE'VE GOT UNEXPECTED PASSENGERS!
AND ASK HIM TO HAVE TWO CUPS OF HOT CHOCOLATE READY!

AND, AFTER THE TWO GIANT DIRIGIBLES HAVE BEEN MOORED AND THE AIR RACE HAS BEGUN...
EASY, BOYS -- THE KIDS ARE NERVOUS AND SCARED! ONE QUESTION AT A TIME!
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO THEM NOW, FLY?
HUMAN FLY
BRONE
BLIMP
FLAGSHIP
THE CITY HAS AGREED TO FLY THEM TO LOS ANGELES, THEY'LL JOIN THEIR AUNT THERE, AS THEY ORIGINALLY INTENDED!
THEIR SPIRITS ARE TOO GREAT FOR THEM TO SPEND THE REST OF THEIR LIVES IN AN INSTITUTION!
AND THEY TAUGHT ME SOMETHING... THAT NO MATTER HOW THOROUGHLY I THINK I'VE CHECKED OUT A STUNT --
-- I SHOULD ALWAYS GO BACK AND CHECK IT ONCE MORE FOR -- ER -- UNFORESEEN OCCURRENCES!
I GUESS EVEN THE HUMAN FLY CAN BECOME A LITTLE TOO SURE OF HIMSELF!
NEXT
DANGER IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AS THE
HUMAN FLY FACES WAR IN WASHINGTON!

BULLPEN BULLETINS

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Well, it happened again! There I was, making a soul-stirring speech at good ol' James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia recently, when one of the frantic Marvelites in the madly-cheering audience reminded me of a promise I'd forgotten a decade ago! He said that I'd promised, in the late sixties, to do a column entitled "What is a Bigot?"— and then he pointed an accusing finger and sonorously intoned, "And we're still waiting for it"! Wow, with my laughable little memory I can hardly remember what I said an hour ago, so I'm assuming the forthright flamekeeper was correct, and herewith and forthwith shall that so-grievous oversight be summarily remedied!

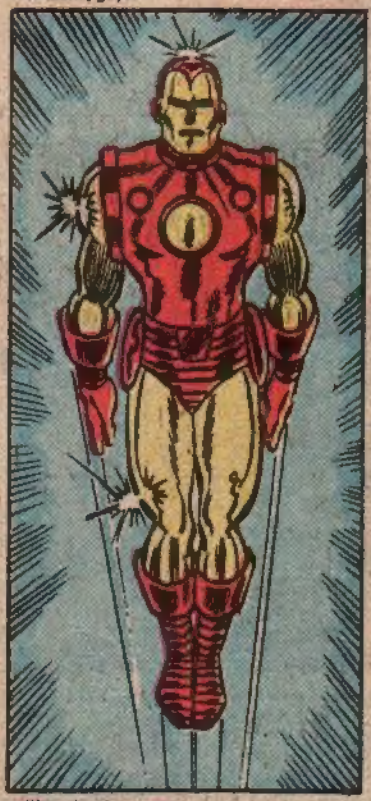
From where I sit, bigotry is one of the many stains upon the human escutcheon which must be eradicated before we can truthfully call ourselves civilized. It comes in many forms and shapes, but it's most easily recognized in the form of cruel and mindless generalizations; such as when you hear some yo-yo say "All Italians are like this", or "All Germans are like that", or "All women are so-and-so" or "All blacks, or Catholics, or Jews, or redheads, or whatever are like this"! Well, they may not be aware of it, but the turkeys that talk that way— and it's always done in a disparaging, put-down manner, of course— are bigots, plain and simple! Anyone with an I.Q. slightly above a cretin's has to know that *all* of any type of humans are never always the same. There are good people and bad people, and all categories in between— and you'll find 'em amongst all races, all religions, all sizes, shapes, and sexes. You wanna dislike someone? Be my guest. It's a free country. But do it because he or she has personally given you a reason to feel that way, not because of skin color, or religion, or foreign ancestry, or the shape of their toenails, or any other moronic, mixed-up, mindless motive! Because, if you justify your hatred by smearing everyone in any given group with the same brush, then you're a bigot, Charlie!

Okay, that's it. Never let it be said I don't keep my word when I promise to write about something— even if it happens to take ten years to get around to it!

Excelsior!

Stan

ITEM! In one way or another, *everyone* at Marvel is part of the crazed creative process that produces several dozen of the best comics magazines anywhere each month, but only a few folks can be listed in the credits. Actually, the artists, writers, editors and other Marvel stars whose names you've come to know would be lost without the services of our stalwart support troops. With that in mind, we'd like to take time out to thank Titanic TONY CERNIGLIA and his mighty mailroom crew, MIKE (Great "K") KUDZINOWSKI, DANIEL (Poppy) LOCARIO, and Hopalong JOHN GALVIN, for their efforts above and beyond the call of duty during Marvel's recent reorganization. Not only did they keep inter-office communications flowing smoothly throughout the reshuffling, but they pitched in to rearrange desks, cart furniture, and in general kept logistical problems from bogging down the creative process. Well done, guys!



ITEM! If science fiction is your bag, or if you're simply a connoisseur of the finest in story and art, have we got something for you! MARVEL PREVIEW #15, featuring STAR-LORD—masterfully crafted by Chris Claremont, Carmine Infantino, and Bob Wiacek—is finished at last! For months, we at the Bullpen have been watching with pride as this labor of love evolved, and we feel it's bound to be one of the most talked about epics ever. Okay, you've been warned! Get down to your newsstand *now* and pick up a copy before they're all sold! And, for heaven's sake, if you don't see it, *ask*!

ITEM! While you're slogging your way through the mundane mire of everyday life, does it ever occur to you that you're in danger of letting down and becoming (ugh) *normal*? Take heart, embattled ones, for mighty Marvel's resident wackos, under the direction of Possessed PAUL LAIKIN, have concocted the ultimate remedy for encroaching sanity, namely, CRAZY #42, which has been expanded to a full 80 pages of Daringly Dumb humor, outrageous parody and psychotic ramblings, all for only $1.00! We call it the LET'S GO CRAZY SUPER SPECIAL, and it's absolutely guaranteed to quell sane tendencies! It's on sale *now*!

ITEM! Meanwhile, back in the real world, it is our pleasure to announce the regular pencilling debut of a certain young artist by the name of JOHN ROMITA, JR. John, who currently holds down a regular nine-to-five job as a staff artist as well, will lend his considerable talents to drawing monthly adventures of the Invincible IRON MAN beginning with issue #115, on sale now! Those who have seen the work of Jazzy JOHN ROMITA, SR. (and who hasn't?) on The Amazing SPIDER-MAN, both in the comics and in his widely syndicated newspaper strip, know that Jet-propelled John Jr. has some rather large footsteps to follow in. We've got a feeling though, once you've seen his work, you'll agree with us that he's off to a fantabulous start!

ITEM! While we're at it, we might also mention the terrific job that Dashing DAVE WENZEL is doing pencilling on one of Marvel's most demanding series, the AVENGERS. Dave was there in our hour of need, stepping in to help complete the ten-part super-cosmic Magnum Opus begun by Jim (Trouble) Shooter and George (Pacesetter) Perez long ago! Dave's dynamic drawing seems to get better and better with each panel. We just love watching future Superstars develop!

ITEM! You may have noticed that yet *another* new art team has been bringing the INVADERS to still new heights of glory of late. Audacious ALAN KUPPERBERG and Fancy FRANK SPRINGER have combined, under the guidance of prestigious writer/editor Rascally ROY THOMAS, to provide a virtual visual feast that is well worth a mere 35¢ investment! Believe it!

ITEM! If you want to hear about the latest Marvel doings from the Man himself, STAN LEE will be guest-of-honor August 12th at the Atlanta (Georgia) Comics and Fantasy Fair, being held at Dunfey's Royal Hotel! So if you're in the area, or even if you're not, zoom on down and shake the hand that shook the hand of Irving Forbush!